

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S15105–S15210

Measures Introduced: Eight bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1889–1896, and S.J. Res. 25. **Page S15187**

Measures Reported:

S. 551, to provide for the implementation of air quality programs developed in accordance with an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and the State of Colorado concerning Air Quality Control on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 108–201)

S. 733, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2004 for the United States Coast Guard, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 108–202)

S. 1218, to provide for Presidential support and coordination of interagency ocean science programs and development and coordination of a comprehensive and integrated United States research and monitoring program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 108–203) **Page S15186**

Measures Passed:

Department of Veterans Affairs Long-Term Care and Personnel Authorities Enhancement Act: Senate passed S. 1156, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and enhance provision of health care for veterans, to authorize major construction projects and other facilities matters for the Department of Veterans Affairs, to enhance and improve authorities relating to the administration of personnel of the Department of Veterans Affairs, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S15123–33**

Thomas (for Specter/Graham (FL)) Amendment No. 2203, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S15132**

Thomas (for Specter) Amendment No. 2204, to amend the title. **Pages S15132–33**

Veterans Benefits Act: Committee on Veterans Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2297, to amend title 38, United States Code,

to improve benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S15133–40**

Thomas (for Specter/Graham (FL)) Amendment No. 2205, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S15140**

Presidential Medal of Honor: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 313, to urge the President, on behalf of the United States, to present the Presidential Medal of Freedom to His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, in recognition of his significant, enduring, and historic contributions to the causes of freedom, human dignity, and peace and to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of His Holiness' inauguration of his ministry as Bishop of Rome and Supreme Pastor of the Catholic Church. **Page S15207**

Small Business Act Authorization: Senate passed S. 1895, to temporarily extend the programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through March 15, 2004. **Pages S15207–09**

Mutual Defense Treaty Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 256, observing the 50th anniversary of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Korea, affirming the deep cooperation and friendship between the people of the United States and the people of the Republic of Korea, and thanking the Republic of Korea for its contributions to the global war on terrorism and to the stabilization and reconstruction of Afghanistan and Iraq. **Page S15209**

Energy Policy Act—Conference Report: Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 6, to enhance energy conservation and research and development, to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people, and then began consideration of the conference report. **Pages S15111–23, S15140–79**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the conference report and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, November 21, 2003. **Page S15179**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

Foreign Service nomination beginning with Robert Goldberg and ending with Robert Goldberg (Prior to this action, Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration.)

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Nominations Received: Senate received the following nomination:

J. Russell George, of Virginia, to be Inspector General for Tax Administration, Department of the Treasury.

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Messages From the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Enrolled Bills Presented:

Page S15184

Executive Communications:

Pages S15184–86

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S15187–88

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S15188–92

Additional Statements:

Pages S15182–83

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S15192–S15206

Authority for Committees to Meet:

Pages S15206–07

Privilege of the Floor:

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Adjournment: Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 7:56 p.m. until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 20, 2003. (For Senate's Program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S15210).

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

THE ARMY

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded an open and closed hearing to examine current Army issues, including the Active, Army Reserve, and Army National Guard units, focusing on "Winning the Peace" in Iraq, the Global War on Terror, and the Rest and Recuperation (R&R) Leave Program, after receiving testimony from Les Brownlee, Acting

Secretary of the Army; and General Peter J. Schoomaker, USA, Chief of Staff, United States Army.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee met in closed session to discuss certain pending nominations.

AGROTERRORISM

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the threat of agroterrorism, focusing on strategies to secure the agricultural infrastructure, the Foreign Animal Disease and Plum Island Animal Disease Center, ensuring the safety and security of the Nation's food supply, industry guidance and preventive measures, vulnerability and threat assessments, Operation Liberty Shield, and emergency preparedness and response, after receiving testimony from Senator Talent; Penrose Albright, Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Science and Technology; Lester M. Crawford, Deputy Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Charles Lambert, Deputy Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs; Thomas McGinn, North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Raleigh; Colleen O'Keefe, Illinois Department of Agriculture, Springfield; and Peter Chalk, RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, California.

NOMINATIONS:

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of William James Haynes II, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Warner and Allen; Louis Guirola, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Mississippi, who was introduced by Senators Cochran and Lott; Virginia E. Hopkins, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama, who was introduced by Senators Sessions and Shelby; and Kenneth M. Karas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, who was introduced by Senator Schumer, after each nominee testified and answered questions in their own behalf.